

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 26 †2, characterized in that an apoptotic phenomenon is detected in lymphocytes.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the lymphocytes are T lymphocytes.

11-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 20, characterized in that an apoptotic phenomenon is detected in lymphocytes.

18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the lymphocytes are T lymphocytes.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously presented) A method for detecting compounds intended for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases comprising exposing said compounds to a cell extracted from a transgenic mammalian non-human animal expressing a multimutated form of presenilin 1, wherein the mutations are M146L, H163R, A246E, L286V and C410Y, and allowing an apoptotic phenomenon to be detected in a renewable peripheral tissue.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 26 wherein the neurodegenerative disease includes impairments in mechanisms for protection against free radicals.

23. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22 wherein the neurodegenerative disease is Alzheimer's disease.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 20 wherein the neurodegenerative disease includes impairments in mechanisms for protection against free radicals.

25. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 24 wherein the neurodegenerative disease is Alzheimer's disease.

26. (New) A method for detecting compounds intended for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases, comprising exposing said compounds to a transgenic mammalian non-human animal expressing a multимutated form of presenilin 1, wherein the mutations are M146L, H163R, A246E, L286V and C410Y, and allowing an apoptotic phenomenon to be detected in a renewable peripheral tissue.

27. (New) The method of claim 26 wherein the mutations are under control of the HMG promoter.